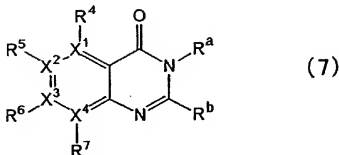


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1.(Currently amended) A method for preparing a pyrimidin-4-one compound of formula (7):



wherein:

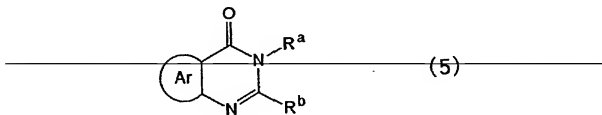
R^a represents hydrogen or a hydrocarbonyl group;

R^b represents hydrogen, an alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, a cycloalkyl group having 3 to 12 carbon atoms, an aralkyl group having 7 to 22 carbon atoms, or an aryl group, provided that R^b is not hydrogen when R^a is hydrogen;

R⁴, R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ each independently are absent or represent hydrogen, an alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, a cycloalkyl group having 3 to 12 carbon atoms, an aralkyl group having 7 to 22 carbon atoms, or an aryl group; and

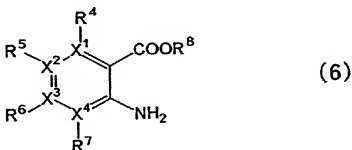
X¹, X², X³ and X⁴ each independently represent a carbon atom or a nitrogen atom, provided that, when any of X¹, X², X³ and X⁴ are nitrogen atoms, the corresponding R⁴, R⁵, R⁶ or R⁷ bonded to the nitrogen atom is absent;

having the formula (5):



in which Ar represents an aromatic hydrocarbyl or heterocyclic ring optionally having a substituent, R^a represents hydrogen or a hydrocarbyl group, and R^b represents an atom or a group which does not participate in the below-mentioned reaction, provided that R^b is other than hydrogen where R^a is hydrogen;

the method comprising which comprises reacting an aminocarboxylic acid compound of formula (6):



wherein in which each of X¹, X², X³, X⁴, R⁴, R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ has the meaning as defined [[as]] above, and R⁸ represents hydrogen, an alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, a cycloalkyl group having 3 to 12 carbon atoms, an aralkyl group having 7 to 22 carbon atoms, or an aryl group;

an aminoarylecarboxylic acid compound having the formula (1):



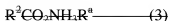
in which Ar has the above-mentioned meaning, and R¹ represents hydrogen or a hydrocarbyl group;

with an organic acid compound of having the formula (4):



wherein in which R³ represents a hydrocarbyl group, and R^b has the above-mentioned meaning as defined above;

in an organic solvent in the presence of a nitrogen atom-containing compound of having the formula (2) ~~or (3)~~:



in which R^3 represents hydrogen or a hydrocarbyl group, and wherein R^1 has the above-mentioned meaning as defined above.

2.(Canceled)

3.(Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~claim 2, in which~~ the organic solvent is a polar solvent.

4.(Currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein ~~in which~~ the polar solvent is a lower alcohol having 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

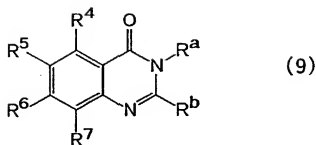
5.(Canceled)

6.(Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~in which~~ the reaction is performed at a temperature in the range of 40 to 200°C.

7-12.(Canceled)

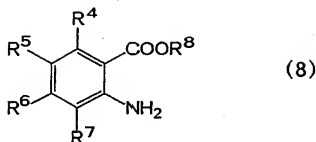
13.(New) The method of claim 1, wherein the organic acid compound is ethyl orthoacetate, methyl orthoformate, or methyl orthoacetate.

14.(New) A method for preparing a quinazolin-4-one compound of formula (9):



wherein R^a represents hydrogen or a hydrocarbyl group, and R^b , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 and R^7 each independently represent hydrogen, an alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, a cycloalkyl group having 3 to 12 carbon atoms, an aralkyl group having 7 to 22 carbon atoms, or an aryl group, provided that R^b is not hydrogen when R^a is hydrogen,

the method comprising reacting an anthranilic acid of formula (8):



wherein R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , and R^7 each have the meaning as defined above, and R^8 represents hydrogen, an alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, a cycloalkyl group having 3 to 12 carbon atoms, an aralkyl group having 7 to 22 carbon atoms, or an aryl group;

with an organic acid compound of formula (4):



wherein R^3 represents an alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, a cycloalkyl group having 3 to 12 carbon atoms, an aralkyl group having 7 to 22 carbon atoms, or an aryl group, and R^b has the meaning as defined above;

in an organic solvent in the presence of a nitrogen atom-containing compound of formula (2):



wherein R^3 has the meaning as defined above.

15.(New) The method of claim 14, wherein the organic acid compound is ethyl orthoacetate or methyl orthoformate.